

Montana Newsletter

Montana State Library

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News



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VOLUME 16 NO. 4

JULY/AUGUST 1987



GOVERNOR APPOINTS THOMPSON TO COMMISSION

Marie E. Thompson of Billings was recently appointed by the governor to the State Library Commission.

Thompson, currently speech and debate coach at Skyview High School in Billings, has a diverse background in education and in government. From 1963-66, she taught English in Billings public schools. She served on the Billings City Council from 1973-83, and is now serving on the Board of the South Central Library Federation and Yellowstone City-County Library Board.

Thompson said she is interested in all facets of library service. She sees a primary need to make certain Montana's libraries keep up with technological innovations in the face of limited funding.

ILL.L. FEE POLICY DEFERRED BY UNIVERSITY PRESIDENTS

Montana universities will postpone the policy of an ill.l. charge. Interlibrary loan fees to libraries in Montana for at least the next few years will continue to be waived. A variation for expenses incurred filling requests for Montana libraries.

The State Library Commissioner considers this a fore lost issue. In a letter last year from the Montana Library Association to the Commissioner, concern was expressed that the imposition of fees by universities would cause the creation of an information elite at the college campuses and an information-poor throughout the rest of Montana.

A study of interlibrary loans in Montana will be undertaken. The objective of the study will be to get a statistical overview of ill.l. in Montana.

The State Librarian is soliciting volunteers for a committee to assist with the study. The committee will include one public library representative from a large (20,000 or more) and one representative from a small (20,000 or less) community.

Also included will

be the two who are director of a academic library, one person from a academic library, interlibrary loan department, one state librarian, one special librarian, one liaison from the Advisory Council and one state librarian, and the Assistant Higher Education Officer. The State Library received a letter on this study, beginning November 1, 1986 and ending with a written report submitted by March 1, 1987.

Please submit letters indicating interest in serving on the committee to Sara Parker, State Librarian, Montana State Library, 1015 E. 6th Ave., Helena, MT 59601.

ADVISORY COUNCIL SEEKS IDEAS ON 1989 LSCA GRANTS

The Montana Library Services Advisory Council will meet this fall to discuss ideas for use of LSCA grant funds. All libraries and interested parties are invited to submit to the council their ideas on how the funds should best be appropriated. The following criteria must be met: 1. LSCA grants must be used for the purposes

See LSCA pg. 2



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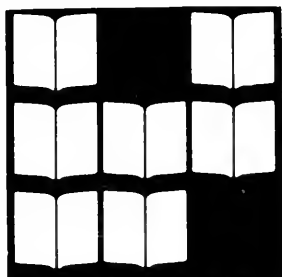
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LIBRARY LAW REVISION UNDERWAY

Drafting of revision of the Montana State Library laws is underway. The law revision committee, chaired by Sara Parker, State Librarian, is focusing on three major areas. The spotlighted issues are those brought to the attention of the committee at meetings throughout the state. These areas include a look at the scope of authority of the Montana State Library Commission, a survey of public library laws and an examination of library systems and federations laws.

The committee will specifically address the following: the Montana State Library Commission's authority to contract for services to Montana's public libraries, the limit of power of county commissioners in setting public library wages, salaries and budgets, and the question of inclusion of academic, school and special libraries in federations.

The revision committee welcomes input from Montana libraries on these issues. A first draft of the revisions by fall and a final draft for the 1988 MLA conference are the committee's goals.

CULTURAL CONGRESS SPEAKERS ANNOUNCED

The Cultural Congress Billings, September 14-17, promises to be an exciting opportunity for Montana literary community to join other artists, writers and educators in a celebration of Montana's cultural heritage. Congress arranger, William Williams, will be among those speaking about the need to preserve Montana's unique cultural identity. Another invited speaker, writer and educator, Steven A. Regier, will be discussing the importance of preserving Montana's literary heritage. The Congress will also feature classes and

discussions on the role of a variety of institutions: libraries, Montana State Library, Montana State University, Division of the Museum and Public Library, and various librarians and educators working in the field of preserving Montana's literary heritage.

The conference will enable Montana's literary community to join the Congress speakers with the Montana State Library, the Montana State Library Commission, and the Montana State University, where the speakers will be presenting their work to the public.

LAW REVISION COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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MONTANA CODES UNDER DISCUSSION

MCA 22-1-101 to 22-1-210
MCA 22-1-301 to 22-1-317 & 2-11-1101 to 2-11-1111
MCA 22-1-401 to 22-1-413

Know Your State

Learn more about the history of the state library system in the book "The State Library System of Montana," published by the Montana State Library, Helena, Montana. The book is available for \$1.00 per copy.

For more information, contact the Montana State Library, 1000 Broadway, Helena, Montana 59601. The book is available for \$1.00 per copy.

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Elizabeth, a horse, and Phoebe, a volunteer, at the Montana State Library, Helena, Montana. The photo was taken by the Montana State Library.

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1987 Bear Creek Mission Statement

The Montana State Library Commission, in order to better serve the people of Montana and better equip the Montana library community, promulgates this statement of the mission of the state library system. We recognize our limited ability. The mission statement is a guide to the direction of the system, and it is not intended to be a statement of knowledge or achievement.

As a community we face a future of economic uncertainty. Montana law states that the state library system is to be supported with state funds for basic library services. The state library system is a tax revenues. While the commission recognizes the difficult economic situation with reduced funding levels to support library services, we encourage libraries to continue to provide basic library services to their patrons.

We believe that free and open access to information by all citizens is fundamental to the process of government in our system of representative democracy, and free, public, universal libraries are essential to meeting this challenge.

We define the following positions for the future:

1. Library federations serve a vital role in fostering cooperation in Montana and we support their continued efforts consistent with reduced funding levels.
2. Interlibrary loan must increasingly depend on cooperative efforts and innovative ideas from all libraries until state aid is achieved.

- 3. Equal access to information is a priority for the citizens of Montana. We believe that the most cost-effective and efficient manner of providing reference service will be through the Montana State Library.

- 4. We recognize the efforts to modernize and make federation and public libraries more effective and will hold public hearings with the utmost urgency and significant changes in Montana library law to the 1983 Legislature.

- 5. The Governor, Legislature and citizens as a library advocate of the public library system, as strong library advocacy, expect continued cooperation among the library leadership in our state.

- 6. Continued for the most part, library service to patrons in institutions, the Governor, Legislature, implement recommendations of the advisory council regarding service to institutions.

- 7. The Governor, Legislature, State and the libraries and will work for the improvement in the 1983 session.

- 8. The Governor, Legislature, school libraries and media centers are fundamental in educating Montana students at all levels. School libraries must be at the heart of the institutional program. We support strong accreditation standards to ensure that school libraries.

The Commission reaffirms the importance of free and equal access to information and resources of resources. Because of current economic conditions, the Commission cannot provide all goals for library service. However, we support library initiatives in these areas: literacy

collection development and management, and the role of the library in the community. The Commission also has a strong interest in the development of library and information services, and in the role of the library in the community. The Commission also has a strong interest in the development of library and information services, and in the role of the library in the community.

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* With thanks to Marilyn Gell Mason for Forecast #9 in "The Future of the Public Library", Library Journal, September 1, 1945, p. 129.

Adopted by Montana State Library Commission
June 17, 1987

MONTANA STATE LIBRARY NEWS

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

1987

SEPTEMBER

- 9 - 11 Governor's Conference on Aging, Helena, Montana
- 11 - 13 Cultural Congress for Montana, Billings
- 13 - 20 Academic Special Libraries Division Retreat, Reno, Nev.
- 23 - 25 Mountain Plains Library Association, Librarian, Librarian
- 25 - 29 School Media Retreat, Eastern Retreat, Helena, Mont.

OCTOBER

- 4 ALA Board Meeting, Chicago
- 5 - 6 School Media Retreat, Western Retreat, Billings
- 9 ALA Continuing Education Activities, Chicago
- 9 Literacy Workshop, Helena
- 9 Montana Library Users Group Meeting, Helena
- 11 Montana State Library, Librarian, Librarian
- 18 - 19 School Media Retreat, Eastern Retreat, Helena
- 19 - 21 Inter-Officers of State Library, Librarian, Librarian
- 23 - 24 Public Library Development Project, Librarian, Librarian
- 24 - 27 Public Library Development Project, Librarian, Librarian
- 27 - 28 by Western Council of State Librarians, Librarian, Librarian
- 30 - 31 Local Project Management Board, Helena
- Public Library Retreat, Miles City, Librarian, Librarian

NOVEMBER

- 3 Montana Library Services Advisory Council
- 3 Statewide Continuing Education Activities, Helena
- 10 - 21 Children's Book Week - Theme: "Children's Book Week"
- (An illustrated brochure of book week activities with price and discount information is available from the Children's Book Council for a \$1.00 stamp, self-addressed envelope.)
- 22 - 24 Western Council of State Librarians, Helena

DECEMBER

- 9 Montana State Library Commission, Helena

1988

JANUARY

- 9 - 14 Midwinter ALA, San Antonio
- 21 Advisory Council Meeting, Bozeman
- 22 ALA Board Meeting, Bozeman
- 27-28 ICLIS Project Management Board Meeting, Helena

PLEASE NOTIFY THE STATE LIBRARY OF ANY EVENTS WHICH YOU WISH TO PUT ON THIS CALENDAR

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July/August 1987

